REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

- 1. In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 16, 18, 19, and 22 under 35 USC § 102 (e) as being anticipated by Humphreys (U.S. Patent No. 6,724,265). In addition, the Examiner objected claims 2, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 15, 17, 20, 21, and 23 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The rejection and objection have been traversed and, as such, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the allowability of claims 1, 3 8, 10 16, and 18 23.
- 2. The applicant has amended claims 1, 8, and 16 to include the limitations of claims 2, 9, and 17, respectively. Since the Examiner indicated that claims 2, 9, and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim, the applicant believes that claims 1, 8, and 16 are now allowable. Since claims 3 7, 10 15, and 18 23 are dependent upon claims 1, 8, and 16, respectively, the applicant believes that claims 3 7, 10 15, and 18 23 are also in condition for allowance.

For the foregoing reasons, the applicant believes that claims 1, 3-8, 10-16, and 18-23 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that they be passed to allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone or facsimile if the Examiner believes that such a communication would advance the prosecution of the present invention.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

By: /Timothy W. Markison reg. 33,534/ Timothy W. Markison Phone: (512) 342-0612 Fax No. (512) 342-1674

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, Virginia 22313, on the date below:

6-14-05

Date

Signature